

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, November 22, 2011

Archie Cole Middle School Cafetorium

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:05p.m. Executive Session Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Durant to go into executive session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5 (a) (1) Personnel- Director of Technology-Systems Analyst Position and (a) (2) Collective Bargaining-Paraprofessional Contract. The vote was unanimously approved (5-0).

7:07p.m. Regular Meeting

I. Call to order

The regular session of the East Greenwich School Committee was called to order in the Cafetorium of the Archie Cole Middle School at 7:07p.m. by Chair Dr. Deidre Gifford.

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III. Public Comments

Mrs. Kristin Wheeler asked if the Cole lights will be discussed this evening. Dr. Mercurio said he planned to discuss the lights in his Superintendent's report.

IV. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular and Executive for 11/8/11

On a motion by Mr. Green, which was seconded by Mr. Durant, the regular and executive minutes for 11/8/11 were approved (5-0 with Mrs. Winters abstaining).

V. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio discussed the lighting issue at Cole. SBS has been in touch with the distributor and manufacturer who supplied the district with two controllers. They need to be replaced immediately. Grissin Electric was at Cole last week to review the controls, switches, and breakers. Lighting controls were replaced in two rooms. Grissin is working through the building and will be back on December 2, 2011 to look at the cafeteria, band room, and first floor corridor. They are checking to see if the problem is with switches or the panel. Dr. Mercurio has been invited to participate in a round table discussion with RIASC in conjunction with Bryant University on December 5, 2011.

VI. School Committee Concerns

Dr. Gifford would like to follow up on the NEASC recommendations and the options for the Senior Exhibition Day. These items will be discussed during an upcoming meeting. The Committee discussed moving the School Committee meetings to the library as the cafeteria has many distractions. Starting with the December 6, 2011 meeting, all meetings will take place in the Cole library.

VII. East Greenwich High School Guidance Presentation

Mrs. Lyn Hostetler, Guidance Department Chair, gave an overview of the guidance department explaining the timeline of events and

activities offered, an overview of the guidance department's responsibilities, explained how data is collected and tracked to support the work of the guidance department, and gave a summary of upcoming events. Mrs. Hostetler thanked the School Committee for the new guidance suite and invited members to visit. She also thanked the School Committee for the School Committee Scholarship and welcomes any comments or concerns. There was discussion regarding the College Board electronic letters. Letters are transmitted on-line to colleges, but the guidance department lacks the capability to PDF transcripts. Dr. Mercurio will contact the copy machine vendor for assistance.

VIII. Action Items

a. Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve appointments #1-8 and #11-18. All coaching appointments were approved subject to each coach obtaining the proper certification.

- 1. EGHS Yearbook Advisor-Paula Glod**
- 2. EGHS Head Coach Boys' Wrestling-Joe Amato**
- 3. EGHS Volunteer Wrestling Coach-James Westell**
- 4. EGHS Head Coach Boys' Indoor Track-Peter Dion**
- 5. EGHS Asst Coach Boy's Indoor Track-Kyle Mushaweh**
- 6. EGHS Head Coach Girls' Indoor Track-Erin Newman**
- 7. EGHS Asst Coach Girls' Indoor Track-Kate Godin**
- 8. EGHS Volunteer Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track-Keith Johnston**
- 11. EGHS Volunteer Girls' Basketball-Hannah Hanks**

- 12. EGHS Head Coach Boys' Basketball-Craig MacKenzie**
- 13. EGHS Asst Coach Boys' Basketball-Don Bowen**
- 14. EGHS Head Coach Girls' Swim-Lauren Estrada**
- 15. EGHS Head Coach Boys' Swim-David Estrada**
- 16. EGHS Competition Cheerleading-Stacey Munzert**
- 17. Cole Middle School Cheerleading-Fay Etchingham**
- 18. Cole Drama Club Advisor-Heather Utsler**

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 5-0 (with Mrs. Records abstaining) to approve appointments #9-10.

- 9. EGHS Head Coach Girls' Basketball-Matthew Records**
- 10. EGHS Volunteer Girls' Basketball-Paul Records**

b. Resignations

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the following resignations were accepted (vote 6-0). All employees were thanked for their service to the district.

- 1. Cole Co-Advisor National Junior Honor Society- Melissa Brightman**
- 2. District Network Specialist- Brian Schaefer**
- 3. Meadowbrook Farms Teacher- Laurie Ratigan**

c. Field Trip- EGHS Girls' Softball Team, Orlando, FL- 3/22/12-3/25/12

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the field trip. This trip will be funded by the students.

d. First Read of New / Revised Policies

Mr. Green discussed items #2-10 noting no changes were needed on these existing policies. Dr. Mercurio discussed new policy #2156 Lunch Credit Limits which tightens up the process for collecting fees. This policy does not affect students on free or reduced lunch.

1. Policy #2156 Lunch Credit Limits (new policy)

Mrs. Records suggested that “Aramark” be removed from the policy and “Food Service Vendor” be added in its place.

2. Policy #2110 Superintendent’s Responsibilities

3. Policy #2115 Fire Safety Drills

4. Policy #2140 Administrative Lines of Responsibility

5. Policy #2155 Free and Reduced Price Meals and/or Free Milk

6. Policy #2165 Student Questionnaires

7. Policy #2170 Use and Display of Student Social Security Numbers

8. Policy #2175 School Based Health Centers

9. Policy #2185 Silent Meditation at the Commencement of the School Day

10. Policy #2195 Pledge of Allegiance

e. Second Read/Adoption of Policies

Mr. Green discussed policies in #1-8 and noted the revisions that were made during the first read. Policy #2180 will remain as is without the residency change that was discussed (because the language was repealed). On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to adopt the policies listed #1-8.

1. Policy #2120 Communication of Emergency Incidents to the School Committee

- 2. Policy #2125 Inclement Weather**
- 3. Policy #2130 School Safety, Emergency, and Crisis Response Plans**
- 4. Policy #2145 School Calendar, School Holidays, and Days of Special Observance**
- 5. Policy #2150 School Day: Elementary and Secondary**
- 6. Policy #2180 Student Residency**
- 7. Policy #2196 Field Trips**
- 8. Policy #2198 Open House**
- f. Second Read for Deletion – Policy #2197-Field Trip Accommodations**

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the deletion of Policy #2197.

g. Fields' MOU

Dr. Mercurio is still working with Mr. Sequino on the cover letter and will review it at the December 6th School Committee meeting.

h. Rankings of Finance Committee Recommendations

Dr. Gifford discussed the School Committee's rankings of the recommendations. Further discussion is needed to clarify the recommendations and the rankings need to be adjusted. The range of scores varied and some members did not rank certain items because the district has already initiated/or is in the process of initiating the recommendation (i.e. Items #3, 4, 5, 9, 12). Items #1, 2, 6, 7,8,10 & 11 need further discussion/consideration as to whether they should be accepted or rejected. Mrs. Records and Mr. Green discussed the language in #11. This recommendation will be split

into 3 sections (11a, 11b, 11c). Mr. Sommer discussed sustainability in regards to #11. Mr. Durant discussed recommendation #10 and why he ranked it #1. He discussed the timeline needed for analysis to make thoughtful decisions. The Committee discussed item #10 noting it requires significant effort and analysis and requires input from the Curriculum Coordinators, Superintendent, and Finance Committee. Dr. Mercurio noted the Strategic Plan also needs to be reviewed in relation to this recommendation. Dr. Gifford will gather additional input from the Committee and the rankings will be discussed at the next School Committee meeting.

X. Discussion Items

a. East Greenwich High School Library Renovations

The interior contract demolition is complete. The remaining interior demolition pending release from EPA and RIDOH has an anticipated start date of November 28, 2011. Dr. Mercurio gave the Committee delivery dates for materials such as lighting, curtain wall, and carpets. School Attorney Matthew Oliverio was present to answer questions. He stated that he has reviewed the legislation language regarding the moratorium. He added that the library was approved under a change order by RIDE through Mr. DaSilva under the scope of the original project. A temporary certificate of occupancy should be granted by the deadline of December 30, 2011. Attorney Oliverio stated the district is in good shape with the project.

b. National School Board Conference – April 2012

This item was tabled due to Mr. Martin's absence.

c. Teacher Attendance

This item was tabled due to Mr. Martin's absence.

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY